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ABSTRACT

This book is a compilation of discussions on current issues in play therapy. It is designed to help therapists fill in the gaps about working with special populations, which is often not directly addressed in other play therapy resources. The object of the book is to bring together information related to issues and dynamics of the process of this type of therapy. Specific dimensions of play therapy that contribute to the therapeutic process are explained. Part 1 deals with special considerations for the role of the play therapist and covers cultural considerations for play therapy, including a chapter on needed modification when working with Chinese children, what therapists need to know about medication, and legal and ethical issues. Part 2 discusses clinical innovations in play therapy as a diagnostic tool when working with physically abused or sexually abused children. Part 3 presents innovative procedures for long- and short-term group therapy. Part 4 discusses issues for play therapy with special populations such as: (1) aggressive children; (2) autistic children; (3) children with a chronic illness; (4) traumatized children; and (5) mute children. An additional chapter is included in this section on play therapy with the elderly. (Contains 1 figure, 3 appendixes, 4 tables, and 476 references.) (JDM)

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